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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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Military Activities, Chinchiang Area

1. Prior to July 1954 not more than 10 Chinese Communist troops were seen in Chinchiang (N 24-56, E 118-36); but after July, 100 to 200 troops were commonly observed. All of the troops spoke Mandarin.

2. In late October a Chinese Communist convoy composed of 30 to 60 tanks and of 40 to 50 trucks loaded with troops moved south from Chinchiang. Each truck and tank towed one artillery piece. The artillery pieces were of various types, but all had two-wheeled carriages. The wheels were made of wood and were equipped with rubber tires or steel rims.

3. During December, between 8 and 24 military trucks loaded with either troops or military equipment daily passed through Chinchiang. The destination of the trucks could not be determined, for they did not travel in any particular direction.

4. On 21 December a convoy of two jeeps with five soldiers in each jeep and three 6 x 6 trucks each carrying 15 soldiers and some military equipment traveled from Chinchiang to Chinching (N 24-34, E 118-36). On the same day three groups of Chinese Communist troops marched south from Chinchiang on the Chinchiang-Chinching road.

Economic Conditions, Chinchiang Area

5. On 21 December buses began operating daily between Chinchiang and Chinching. Buses left Chinchiang at 2300Z and 0600Z. A one-way fare cost JMP 10,000, and no documentation was required for the trip. One Mandarin-speaking guard was stationed outside the bus station at Chinchiang. Four buses operated on this line.

6. In December a bicycle and driver could be rented for a trip from Chinchiang to Weitou (N 24-30, E 118-34) for JMP 5,000. The Chinchiang Bicycle Company rented bicycles with drivers as taxis.

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7. Licenses to operate businesses were issued by the Workmans and Businessmans Association and were chopped by the mayor of Chinchiang, HSU Chi-mei (6079/7162/5019). Licenses valid for one year cost JMP 30,000.

8. The average monthly income for a maker of wooden buckets was JMP 3,000,000. Income tax on gross income was three and one-half percent each month. Some employees were paid the value of 65 catties of rice per month; others received JMP 1,650 for each bucket they made.

9. A rice rationing card was the only documentation required of an inhabitant of Chinchiang. Each person was permitted to purchase 34 catties of rice and 12 ounces of cooking oil each month. In December rice cost JMP 1,300 per catty.

1. [redacted] Comment. These bicycles are presumably pedicabs. (b)(3)

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